

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Patrick Miles et al

Art Unit: 3732

Serial No.: 10/759,811

Examiner: Jonathan S. Werner

Filing Date: January 16, 2004

Title: Surgical Access System and Surgical Access System and

**Certificate of Transmission:** I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, via EFS-Web, on September 17, 2008.

Signature: /roryschermerhorn/

Name: Rory Schermerhorn

**Responsive Amendment**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed on March 17, 2008 in the above-captioned application, having a three-month shortened statutory period for response which expired June 17, 2008, please amend the application as follows.